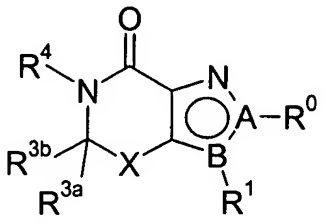
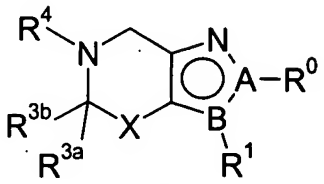
Claim Amendments

1(currently amended). A compound of Formula (I) or (II)



(I)



(II)

wherein

A is nitrogen and B is carbon~~, or A is carbon and B is nitrogen~~;

R^0 is an aryl optionally substituted with one or more substituents or a heteroaryl optionally substituted with one or more substituents;

R^1 is aryl optionally substituted with one or more substituents, heteroaryl optionally substituted with one or more substituents, $-CH=CH-R^{1a}$, or $-CH_2CH_2-R^{1a}$, where R^{1a} is hydrogen or a chemical moiety selected from (C_1-C_8)alkyl, 3- to 8-membered partially or fully saturated carbocyclic ring(s), 3- to 8-membered partially or fully saturated heterocycle, aryl, heteroaryl, where the chemical moity is optionally substituted with one or more substituents;

X is ~~a bond or~~ $-C(R^{2a})(R^{2b})$, where R^{2a} and R^{2b} are each independently hydrogen, (C_1-C_4)alkyl, or halo-substituted (C_1-C_4)alkyl;

R^{3a} and R^{3b} are each independently hydrogen, (C_1-C_4)alkyl, or halo-substituted (C_1-C_4)alkyl; and

R^4 is a chemical moiety selected from the group consisting of (C_1-C_8)alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryl(C_1-C_4)alkyl, a 3- to 8-membered partially or fully saturated carbocyclic ring(s), heteroaryl(C_1-C_3)alkyl, 5-6 membered lactone, 5- to 6-membered lactam, and a 3- to 8-membered partially or fully saturated heterocycle, where said chemical moiety is optionally substituted with one or more substituents;

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, a prodrug of said compound or said salt, or a solvate or hydrate of said compound, said salt or said prodrug.

2(original). The compound of Claim 1 wherein R^4 is a chemical moiety selected from the group consisting of $(C_1$-$C_8)$alkyl, aryl$(C_1$-$C_4)$alkyl, 3- to 8-membered partially or fully saturated carbocyclic ring(s), and 3- to 8-membered partially or fully saturated heterocycle, where said chemical moiety is optionally substituted with one or more substituents;

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a solvate or hydrate of said compound or said salt.

3(original). The compound of Claim 2 wherein R^4 is $(C_1$-$C_8)$alkyl, halo-substituted $(C_1$-$C_8)$alkyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, piperidin-1-yl, pyrrolidin-1-yl, or morpholin-1-yl;

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a solvate or hydrate of said compound or said salt.

4(original). The compound of Claim 1, 2 or 3 wherein said compound is a compound of Formula (I);

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a solvate or hydrate of said compound or said salt.

5-12(cancelled).

13(currently amended). The compound of ~~Claim 12~~ Claim 4 wherein R^{2a} and R^{2b} are hydrogen;

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a solvate or hydrate of said compound or said salt.

14(original). The compound of Claim 13 wherein R^0 and R^1 are each independently a phenyl substituted with 1 to 3 substituents independently selected

from the group consisting of halo, (C_1-C_4)alkoxy, (C_1-C_4)alkyl, halo-substituted (C_1-C_4)alkyl, and cyano;

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a solvate or hydrate of said compound or said salt.

15(original). The compound of Claim 14 wherein R^0 and R^1 are each independently a phenyl substituted with 1 to 2 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of chloro, fluoro, (C_1-C_4)alkoxy, (C_1-C_4)alkyl, fluoro-substituted (C_1-C_4)alkyl), and cyano;

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a solvate or hydrate of said compound or said salt.

16(original). The compound of Claim 15 wherein R^0 is 2-chlorophenyl, 2-fluorophenyl, 2,4-dichlorophenyl, 2-fluoro-4-chlorophenyl, 2-chloro-4-fluorophenyl, or 2,4-difluorophenyl; and R^1 is 4-chlorophenyl, 4-cyanophenyl, or 4-fluorophenyl;

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a solvate or hydrate of said compound or said salt.

17(currently amended). The compound of ~~Claim 12~~ Claim 1 selected from the group consisting of

3-(4-chloro-phenyl)-2-(2-chloro-phenyl)-6-isopropyl-2,4,5,6-tetrahydro-pyrazolo[3,4-c]pyridin-7-one;

3-(4-chloro-phenyl)-2-(2-chloro-phenyl)-6-(2,2,2-trifluoro-ethyl)-2,4,5,6-tetrahydro-pyrazolo[3,4-c]pyridin-7-one;

3-(4-chloro-phenyl)-2-(2-chloro-phenyl)-6-(2,2-difluoro-ethyl)-2,4,5,6-tetrahydro-pyrazolo[3,4-c]pyridin-7-one; and

3-(4-chloro-phenyl)-2-(2-chloro-phenyl)-6-(2-fluoro-ethyl)-2,4,5,6-tetrahydro-pyrazolo[3,4-c]pyridin-7-one;

or a solvate or hydrate of said compound.

18-30(cancelled).

31(original). The compound of Claim 4 wherein R^1 is $-CH=CH-R^{1a}$, or $-CH_2CH_2-R^{1a}$, where R^{1a} is hydrogen or a chemical moiety selected from (C_1-C_8)alkyl, 3- to 8-membered partially or fully saturated carbocyclic ring(s), 3- to 6-membered partially or fully saturated heterocycle, aryl, heteroaryl, where the chemical moity is optionally substituted with one or more substituents;

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a solvate or hydrate of said compound or said salt.

32(cancelled).

33(original). The compound of Claim 1, 2 or 3 wherein said compound is a compound of Formula (II);

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a solvate or hydrate of said compound or said salt.

34-35(cancelled).

36(currently amended). The compound of ~~Claim 35~~ Claim 33 wherein R^0 and R^1 are each independently a phenyl substituted with 1 to 3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halo, (C_1-C_4)alkoxy, (C_1-C_4)alkyl, halo-substituted (C_1-C_4)alkyl, and cyano;

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a solvate or hydrate of said compound or said salt.

37(original). The compound of Claim 36 wherein R^0 and R^1 are each independently a phenyl substituted with 1 to 2 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of chloro, fluoro, (C_1-C_4)alkoxy, (C_1-C_4)alkyl, fluoro-substituted (C_1-C_4)alkyl), and cyano;

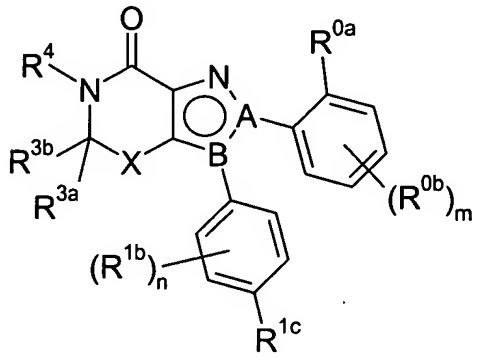
a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a solvate or hydrate of said compound or said salt.

38(original). The compound of Claim 37 wherein R^0 is 2-chlorophenyl, 2-fluorophenyl, 2,4-dichlorophenyl, 2-fluoro-4-chlorophenyl, 2-chloro-4-fluorophenyl, or 2,4-difluorophenyl; and R^1 is 4-chlorophenyl, 4-cyanophenyl, or 4-fluorophenyl;

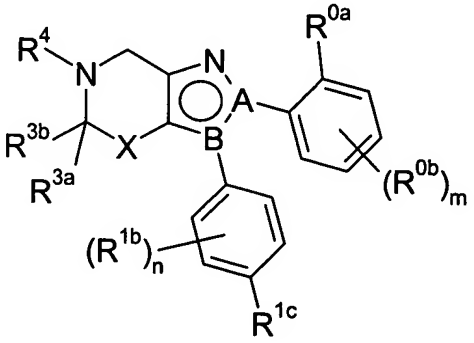
a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a solvate or hydrate of said compound or said salt.

39-44(cancelled).

45(currently amended). A compound of Formula (III) or (IV)



(III)



(IV)

wherein

A is nitrogen and B is carbon~~, or A is carbon and B is nitrogen~~;

R^{0a}, R^{0b}, R^{1a}, and R^{1b} are each independently halo, $(C_1$-$C_4)$alkoxy, $(C_1$-$C_4)$alkyl, halo-substituted $(C_1$-$C_4)$alkyl, or cyano;

n and m are each independently 0, 1 or 2;

X is ~~a bond or~~ $-C(R^{2a})(R^{2b})$, where R^{2a} and R^{2b} are each independently hydrogen, $(C_1$-$C_4)$alkyl, or halo-substituted $(C_1$-$C_4)$alkyl;

R^{3a} and R^{3b} are each independently hydrogen, $(C_1$-$C_4)$alkyl, or halo-substituted $(C_1$-$C_4)$alkyl; and

R^4 is a chemical moiety selected from the group consisting of $(C_1$-$C_8)$alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryl$(C_1$-$C_4)$alkyl, a 3- to 8-membered partially or fully saturated carbocyclic ring(s), heteroaryl$(C_1$-$C_3)$alkyl, 5-6 membered lactone, 5- to 6-membered lactam, and

a 3- to 8-membered partially or fully saturated heterocycle, where said chemical moiety is optionally substituted with one or more substituents,

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, a solvate or hydrate of said compound or said salt.

46(original). The compound of Claim 45 wherein said compound is a compound of Formula (III);

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, a solvate or hydrate of said compound or said salt.

47-50(cancelled).

51(currently amended). The compound of ~~Claim 50~~ Claim 46 wherein R^{2a} and R^{2b} are hydrogen;

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a solvate or hydrate of said compound or said salt.

52(original) The compound of Claim 45 wherein said compound is a compound of Formula (IV);

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, a solvate or hydrate of said compound or said salt.

53-56(cancelled).

57(currently amended). The compound of ~~Claim 56~~ Claim 52 wherein R^{2a} and R^{2b} are hydrogen;

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a solvate or hydrate of said compound or said salt.

58(currently amended). A pharmaceutical composition comprising (1) a compound of ~~any one of the preceding Claims~~Claim 1, or a solvate or hydrate of

said compound or said salt; and (2) a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, diluent, or carrier.

59-61(cancelled).

62(withdrawn). A method for treating a disease, condition or disorder which is modulated by a cannabinoid receptor antagonist in animals comprising the step of administering to an animal in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1;

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a solvate or hydrate of said compound or said salt.

63(withdrawn). The method of Claim 62 wherein said compound is administered in combination with a nicotine receptor partial agonist, an opioid antagonist, a dopaminergic agent, an attention deficit disorder agent, or an anti-obesity agent.

64(withdrawn). The method of Claim 63 wherein said anti-obesity agent is selected from the group consisting of an apo-B/MTP inhibitor, a 11β-hydroxy steroid dehydrogenase-1 inhibitor, peptide YY_{3-36} or an analog thereof, a MCR-4 agonist, a CCK-A agonist, a monoamine reuptake inhibitor, a sympathomimetic agent, a β_3 adrenergic receptor agonist, a dopamine agonist, a melanocyte-stimulating hormone receptor analog, a 5-HT2c receptor agonist, a melanin concentrating hormone antagonist, leptin, a leptin analog, a leptin receptor agonist, a galanin antagonist, a lipase inhibitor, a bombesin agonist, a neuropeptide-Y receptor antagonist, a thyromimetic agent, dehydroepiandrosterone or analog thereof, a glucocorticoid receptor antagonist, an orexin receptor antagonist, a glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonist, a ciliary neurotrophic factor, a human agouti-related protein antagonist, a ghrelin receptor antagonist, a histamine 3 receptor antagonist or inverse agonist, and a neuromedin U receptor agonist.

65(withdrawn) The method of Claim 62 wherein said disease, condition or disorder modulated by a cannabinoid receptor antagonist is selected from the group consisting of weight loss, obesity, bulimia, depression, atypical depression, bipolar disorders, psychoses, schizophrenia, behavioral addictions, suppression of reward-related behaviors, alcoholism, tobacco abuse, dementia, seizure disorders, epilepsy, attention deficit disorder, Parkinson's disease, inflammation, gastrointestinal disorders, and type II diabetes.

66(withdrawn). The method of Claim 65 wherein said disease, condition or disorder modulated by a cannabinoid receptor antagonist is obesity, bulimia, attention deficit disorder, Parkinson's disease, dementia, alcoholism, or tobacco abuse.

67(withdrawn). A method for treating a disease, condition or disorder modulated by a cannabinoid receptor antagonist comprising the step of administering a pharmaceutical composition of Claim 58.

68(withdrawn). The method of Claim 67 wherein said pharmaceutical composition further comprises an additional pharmaceutical agent.

69(withdrawn). The method of Claim 68 wherein said additional pharmaceutical agent is a nicotine partial agonist, an opioid antagonist, a dopaminergic agent, an attention deficit disorder agent, or an anti-obesity agent.

70(withdrawn). The method of Claim 69 wherein said anti-obesity agent is selected from the group consisting of an apo-B/MTP inhibitor, a 11β-hydroxy steroid dehydrogenase-1 inhibitor, peptide YY_{3-36} or an analog thereof, a MCR-4 agonist, a CCK-A agonist, a monoamine reuptake inhibitor, a sympathomimetic agent, a β_3 adrenergic receptor agonist, a dopamine agonist, a melanocyte-stimulating hormone receptor analog, a 5-HT2c receptor agonist, a melanin concentrating hormone antagonist, leptin, a leptin analog, a leptin receptor agonist, a

galanin antagonist, a lipase inhibitor, a bombesin agonist, a neuropeptide-Y receptor antagonist, a thyromimetic agent, dehydroepiandrosterone or analog thereof, a glucocorticoid receptor antagonist, an orexin receptor antagonist, a glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonist, a ciliary neurotrophic factor, a human agouti-related protein antagonist, a ghrelin receptor antagonist, a histamine 3 receptor antagonist or inverse agonist, and a neuromedin U receptor agonist.

71(withdrawn). The method of Claim 67, 68, 69 or 70 wherein said disease, condition or disorder modulated by a cannabinoid receptor antagonist is obesity, bulimia, attention deficit disorder, Parkinson's disease, dementia, alcoholism, or tobacco abuse.

72(withdrawn). A method for treating a disease, condition or disorder modulated by a cannabinoid receptor antagonist in animals comprising the step of administering to an animal in need of such treatment two separate pharmaceutical compositions comprising

(i) a first composition comprising a compound of Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a solvate or hydrate of said compound or said salt, and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, diluent, or carrier, and

(ii) a second composition comprising at least one additional pharmaceutical agent and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, diluent, or carrier.

73(withdrawn). The method of Claim 72 wherein said at least one additional pharmaceutical agent is a nicotine partial agonist, an opioid antagonist, a dopaminergic agent, an attention deficit disorder agent, or an anti-obesity agent.

74(withdrawn). The method of Claim 73 wherein said anti-obesity agent is selected from the group consisting of an apo-B/MTP inhibitor, a 11β-hydroxy steroid dehydrogenase-1 inhibitor, peptide YY_{3-36} or an analog thereof, a MCR-4

agonist, a CCK-A agonist, a monoamine reuptake inhibitor, a sympathomimetic agent, a β_3 adrenergic receptor agonist, a dopamine agonist, a melanocyte-stimulating hormone receptor analog, a 5-HT2c receptor agonist, a melanin concentrating hormone antagonist, leptin, a leptin analog, a leptin receptor agonist, a galanin antagonist, a lipase inhibitor, a bombesin agonist, a neuropeptide-Y receptor antagonist, a thyromimetic agent, dehydroepiandrosterone or analog thereof, a glucocorticoid receptor antagonist, an orexin receptor antagonist, a glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonist, a ciliary neurotrophic factor, a human agouti-related protein antagonist, a ghrelin receptor antagonist, a histamine 3 receptor antagonist or inverse agonist, and a neuromedin U receptor agonist.

75(withdrawn). The method of Claim 72 wherein said first composition and said second composition are administered simultaneously.

76(withdrawn). The method of Claim 72 wherein said first composition and said second composition are administered sequentially and in any order.

77(new). A compound having the following structure